



Guliyali Preschool Procedure

Water Safety



Reviewed: 27/03/2019

Education and care services regulation/s	NSW Department of Education policy, procedure or guidelines	Preschool Handbook reference	School policy or procedure, where applicable
Regulation 168 (2)(a)	Excursion Policy PD/2004/0010/V07	Page 45	N/A

Resources:

Risk minimisation plan

The *Education and Care Services National Regulations* (regulation 168) state that a health and safety policy including water safety is required by all services and a risk management process undertaken (regulation 101).

To provide connectedness with nature and opportunities for exploration, preschools may choose to have mud and/or water features as a part of the outdoor environment. Staff will need to assess the risk to children around water.

➤ **ENSURING:**

- Adequate supervision at all times.
- Water containers or water features that could be drowning hazards are appropriately covered or inaccessible to children e.g. mud pit located near gonyah at rear of preschool.
- Water troughs or containers for water play are filled to a safe level. These activities will be supervised at all times and containers or troughs will be emptied onto garden areas after use. Children will be discouraged from drinking from these water activities.
- Pooled water after rain is to be managed by the Preschool Learning Support Officer.
- Children do not have access to hot water.
- Educators do not carry or consume hot drinks where children are present.
- Ensure risk assessments for excursions planned near water identify a higher staff to child ratio to ensure adequate supervision.
- Ensure First Aid and CPR qualifications and requirements are met at all times.
- Provide families with community messages regarding safe water practices.
- Water safety messages embedded into the children's education program.
- Empty buckets used for cleaning immediately after use. No buckets are left unsupervised in play areas or accessible to children.
- When filling any water vessel with water ensure that this area is well supervised while children are at play and that all water is drained out when experience is finished.
- Provide clean drinking water at all times. This water will be supervised to ensure that it is safe and hygienic for consuming. Water containers will be securely sealed. At the end of each day, any water container will be emptied and cleaned thoroughly.

➤ **MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW:**

- A risk assessment will be conducted prior to any excursion-taking place. Particular attention will be focused upon water safety where the excursion is near a body of water.
- This policy will be monitored to ensure compliance with legislative requirements and unless deemed necessary through the identification of practice gaps, the service will review this Policy every two years.
- Families and staff are essential stakeholders in the policy review process and will be given opportunity and encouragement to be actively involved.

